
PREFACE

This document is the Final Environmental Assessment (Final EA) for the Long-Term Contract Renewal, Shasta and Trinity Rivers Divisions which must be considered prior to approving a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) must consider this EA before approving or rejecting the contract renewals (project).

The Final EA includes all corrections and additions to the EA text made as a result of comments made on the Draft EA and the Updated Draft EA. Any changes to the text are indicated by revision marks (underline for new text, ~~strike-out~~ for deleted text). The Draft EA was published in October 2000, and the Updated Draft EA was published in July 2004. Appendix F to this document provides a list of commenters, copies of written comments (numerically coded for reference), and Reclamation's responses to those comments.

No significant environmental issues beyond those already covered in the EA were raised during either the 30-day comment period for the Draft EA or the 30-day comment period for the Updated Draft EA. Comments received on the EA did not indicate new significant impacts or significant new information that would require recirculation of the EA pursuant to NEPA, but it was updated and recirculated because of the time lapse between the completion of the EA and the completion of negotiations and Endangered Species Act consultations.